

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

OIS Support for the State Department's
Foreign Relations Program

FROM

Director of Information Services, DA
 1206 Ames Building

EXTENSION

NO.

OIS 85-654

DATE

26 NOV 1985

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. CRD Liaison w/State
 322 Ames Bldg. / Karen

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OIS 85-654
26 NOV 1985

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration
Chief, DCI History Staff

FROM:
Director of Information Services, DA

SUBJECT: OIS Support for the State Department's
Foreign Relations Program

REFERENCE: President's Memorandum dated 12 November 1985,
Subject: Timely Publication of the Foreign
Relations Series

1. While action on the referenced memorandum has been assigned to the Chief, DCI History Staff, I wanted you to know of our work on State Department's Foreign Relations Series.

2. Since 1978 OIS/CRD has reviewed selected galley proofs of all 1950, 1951, and 1952-54 FRUS volumes (except Iran--work suspended during hostage crisis, but started anew and should be returned to State this month). Starting in 1982 with the 1955-57 series we have reviewed the entire rough draft of each volume, and have nearly completed all the 1955-57 volumes. In addition we have reviewed special advance FRUS's which State is publishing for Vietnam 1961, 1962, and 1963. Besides this we have re-examined many documents originally denied by our first review which the State History Office has requested us in reclama to reconsider releasing.

3. The Classification/Declassification Center (CDC) at State acts as the intermediary between CIA and the State History Office (SHO) and has in the past often sent us as well preliminary pages or documents concerning CIA in order to get a preliminary reading on a particularly vexing declassification question, which the SHO feels vital to the history but fears CIA will not release. The State History Office most commendably wants to publish the "whole story," but security must be our first consideration.

4. While no figures have been retained on the number of pages covered by the FRUS review, each of the rough drafts of each volume runs between two and three thousand pages, and the number of volumes have increased from ten in 1950, to twenty-eight in 1955-57, so we are speaking of tens of thousands of pages, perhaps hundreds of thousands. Each page must be read, and where

necessary sanitized, and sanitized in such a way that the flow of the narrative is not interrupted. The deletions are usually made to protect intelligence sources and methods in regards to CIA presence in specific countries overseas, identity of covert personnel, collection or communications facilities or programs, or liaison with foreign intelligence services. Sometimes the reasons could include foreign government information given confidentially, or even the protection of good foreign relations with other countries. After CRD has completed the initial review, those pages containing classified information with DI or DO equities are forwarded to the Directorate IROs for concurrence. When this coordination is completed the drafts are returned to State with the collated CIA recommendations.

5. From receipt of the first preliminary documents to the final reclama a number of years can pass. Internally we try to return these documents to State as soon as possible and we request prompt replies in each memo we write to coordinating offices. Because of the way declassification statutes and regulations are written, the final approval for declassification must come from the line organization responsible for classifying the information. In actual practice the Directorate of Operations (DO) reviewers take from four to six weeks to return the pages CRD has selected for them to review. The DI, however, often returns the fewer pages sent for their concurrence, in a matter of days. The one exception to this prompt response has been a troublesome FRUS on Iran, 1953-54, the review of which was twice suspended during the hostage situation in Tehran. The coordination of the Iran volume took nine months. In general over the last three or four years CIA has averaged about six months from the time a FRUS volume is first received from State to the time it is returned to them. The longest time was Volume I (Economics) 1955-57 which took nine months and one week; the shortest was a volume on Vietnam 1958-60 which took only two months.

6. Representatives of CDC have told us that they are happy with the promptness of CIA replies which they find faster than those received from many other agencies. CDC finds the present situation with CRD acting as preliminary review element and clearinghouse for all FRUS manuscripts as superior to the situation which existed before 1978. In OIS we feel that we have been responsible for assisting the line directorates to fulfill the requirement for prompt review of the manuscripts for this oldest continuous statutory document in the federal government. We agree with the President's high evaluation of the Foreign Relations series, and continue to be eager to cooperate in any reasonable way to accelerate CIA's responses to State on the FRUS manuscripts.

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Distribution:

- Orig - DDA
- 1 - C/DCI History Staff
- 1 - D/OIS
- 1 - CRD Chrono
- 1 - CRD Liaison w/State Department

Executive Registry

85- 4451

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 12, 1985

15 NOV 1985

AMES

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS
THE ACTING ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES
THE PUBLIC PRINTER

SUBJECT: Timely Publication of the Foreign Relations Series

The documentary publication Foreign Relations of the United States has presented the official record of American diplomacy since the presidency of Abraham Lincoln. This orderly and timely publication of the official diplomatic record is extremely important. The accurate understanding of the history of American diplomacy is necessary not only for our own citizens but also for our allies and adversaries abroad. And, while the continued public disclosure of diplomatic negotiations and undertakings must be balanced carefully against the needs of national security and the expectation of confidentiality in the diplomatic process, the historic record when published should be as complete as possible. The documentary publication series, Foreign Relations, is the proper vehicle for systematic official disclosure of the major documentation regarding American foreign policy in its proper historical context.

I therefore direct that the authoritative foreign affairs record be gathered and appropriately published thirty years after the event in a manner fully consistent with other directives on the release and publication of official information. In particular I ask that the Secretary of State take necessary measures to ensure the publication by 1990 of the foreign affairs volumes through 1960. The published record should reflect the activities of those federal agencies with responsibilities for the conduct of relations with foreign governments and international organizations.

To assist in this important task, I ask that each of you direct your agencies and staffs to cooperate with the Department of State in the collection, declassification review, and publication of these volumes. You should assure all proper access to

authoritative historical records to appropriately cleared official Department of State historians and that the declassification review for publication is accorded the necessary priority to achieve this 30-year publication timeframe.

I ask the Department of State to oversee the convening of periodic meetings of appropriate interagency representatives to review and improve cooperative procedures and plans to meet this 30-year publication timeframe. In addition, I direct that the Department of State make an annual status report on the progress made toward this goal.

Ronald Reagan